

Forest Service Green Mountain National Forest Manchester Ranger District

www.fs.fed.us/r9/gmfl

2538 Depot St. Manchester Ctr., VT 05255 Tel. (802) 362-2307

FAX (802) 362-1251

File Code: 1950

Date: April 9, 2013

Dear Interested Members of the Public:

I am pleased to inform you that the Forest Service has completed the Final Environmental Assessment (Final EA) for the Dorset Peru Integrated Resource Project. The project area is located primarily in the towns of Dorset and Peru with the remaining portions in the towns of Manchester and Winhall, Vermont, within the Mettawee River, Battenkill River, Otter Creek, and West River watersheds. This project was initiated in December 2007, and since then we have been engaged with you to develop management activities that will best move the landscape within the Dorset Peru Integrated Resource project area towards desired conditions provided for in the Green Mountain National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan).

I appreciate the amount of time, thought, and effort that has been invested in this project by both Forest Service employees and interested people like you. After the review of the Final EA and supporting documents together with public comments and suggestions I received to improve the project, I have decided to select the Proposed Action (Alternative B) for implementation. The proposed action includes activities to improve wildlife and fish habitat, enhance forest health, provide timber products, control non-native invasive plants, restore soil and water conditions, increase recreation and scenery viewing opportunities, address travel system needs (trails and roads), and protect or enhance heritage resource sites.

Enclosed you will find the Dorset Peru Project Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact which provides the rationale for my decision. This document, the Dorset Peru Project Final EA, and the *Preliminary Environmental Assessment 30-Day Comment Period: Comment Content Analysis and Response to Comments* that discloses how comments were addressed in the final phase of the analysis process, and other supporting information are also posted on our website at: http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/nepa_project_exp.php?project=32091

Questions regarding the Dorset Peru Project Final EA, my decision, or requests to review the project planning record filed at the Manchester Ranger District office may be directed to Melissa Reichert, Project Team Leader; USDA Forest Service; 231 North Main Street; Rutland, VT 05701 (mail); 802-747-6766 (facsimile); mmreichert@fs.fed.us (email); or call Ms. Reichert directly at 802-747-6754 (phone).

Sincerely,

/s/ William F. Jackson WILLIAM F. JACKSON District Ranger



